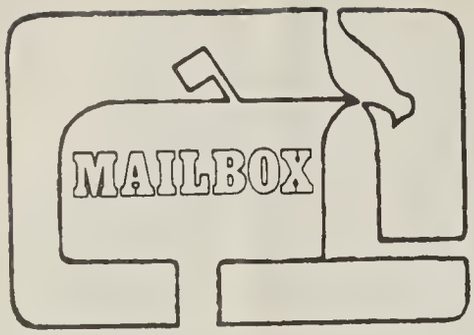
Soil Conservation Marks
Its Golden Anniversary
See Page 10

CHAPEL HILL NC 27514

# Carolina Country®

July 1985




### "What A Marvelous Publication"

What a marvelous publication you have! Saw my first copy while volunteering at our local hospital. Now I'd like to have my own subscription, please.

*Adeline Kendrick*
*Gastonia*

### Rural Electric Story "Needs Telling"

A friend of mine has let me read the May, 1985, issue of *Carolina Country*, which I greatly enjoyed. The story on rural electrification is very interesting and one that really needs telling and re-telling. I've often heard the older folks talk of the arrival of the electric light.

*C. E. Mertig*
*Suffolk, Va.*

### NCSU Humanities Seminars Can "Broaden" Your World

I enjoyed your April, 1985, article on the North Carolina State University humanities program that offers classes in different parts of the state.

I felt the Eastern North Carolina area we lived in to be totally out of step with the rest of the world until I took part in a seminar on Russia. Then, I found out there were some lively minds and intelligent people who could converse on things other than the latest Carolina ball scores.

The instructor was good, as were the tapes and handout sheets we received. I discovered a source for information that would broaden my world as a whole—and realized I wasn't living in such a backwater place after all, if NCSU could find us!!

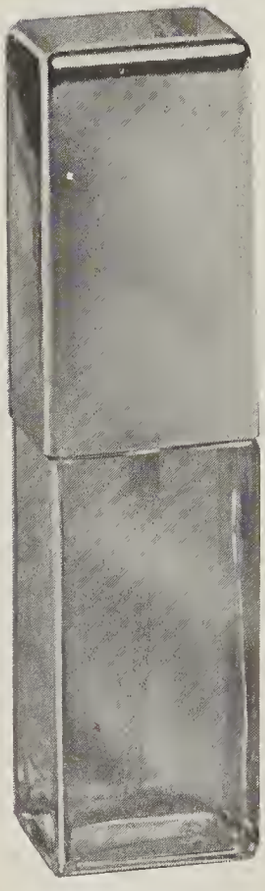
I hope the humanities program will continue to be taught and be supported by people who might not otherwise have a chance to learn and participate in the study seminars the extension program offers.

*Naomi Foote*
*Winston-Salem*

### Magazine: A "Wonderful Way To Learn More About My Roots."

I just returned home from my first visit to North Carolina. I saw a copy of your magazine and would like to have a year's subscription. I think it would be a wonderful way to learn more about my roots.

*Audrey Mast Nelson*
*Kellogg, Idaho*

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VIEWPOINT

# Eleanor's Idea: A Foundation For Little Things

*Excerpted from an address by David Roosevelt, grandson of Eleanor and Franklin Roosevelt, delivered at Warm Springs, Ga., on the 50th Anniversary of rural electrification, May 11. David Roosevelt, son of Elliott, lives in Westport, Conn.*

A high executive from one of this country's largest foundations came to my grandmother shortly before her death to ask what her experience suggested that foundations *should* be doing that they were not now doing. Her reply was instant.

"I think a foundation as big as ours ought to set up a separate foundation—for *little* things—and only little things. You get so involved in your big projects that you forget how much energy can be generated for the solution of all kinds of problems by having a small amount of money in the right place, for more people, if only there was a foundation for little things.

"And," she added, "I would call it just that!"

The idea was that the little things, done in their own way, by people working together in their own communities was at the heart of what made society—and this country—strong.

And isn't this what the REA and today's electric cooperatives are all about?

At another time, at the United Nations, she held a press conference just prior to one of her many trips to the Middle East. Reporters from several Arab countries had calculated, almost to the minute, the time she would spend in each of their countries. They then compared that, in a series of hostile questions, to the time she would spend in Israel.

She listened patiently until all their complaints were on the table and replied in that quiet, unpresupposing manner of hers:

"You know, my husband was not able to move around very much and very early on I had to learn how to be extra eyes, ears and legs for him. His closest friend and advisor, Louis Howe, taught me how to look for things which Franklin would want to know."

For example, he taught me to look more carefully at backyards than at front yards; to study the clothesline to see the condition of the clothes. How gray and how worn were they? How many patches?"

At night, were there lights in the windows? Because of my husband's constant desire to know the condition of life for even the poorest of our people, I had to learn to be observant. And because of this training, I think I will learn more about your countries—and your people—than you seem to think I will."

There were no more hostile questions.

Caring about the little things; caring about the conditions of life for people in all walks of life—and wanting to do something about them. This is the idea that gave birth to the Rural Electrification Administration.

It is good to recall on this day that the REA was not simply an extension of existing technology to more people. Rather, it was a test of our values; it stretched our concern for human well-being. It strengthened the moral as well as economic muscles of our society. Indeed, by many—and even today—it was considered one of my grandfather's grandest accomplishments; by still others, his most damnable.

Perhaps, however, more than any other accomplishment of my grandfather, the REA best fit his concept, his definition of the role of government to do for the people those things they cannot accomplish for themselves, but always to the ultimate profit of all.

I think my grandmother perhaps found in the REA the answer to at least part of what she was seeking when she suggested that "Foundation for Little Things."

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# The Official RE Group Hospital Plan *for Members Only!*

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## $350.00 a Week
## $50.00 a Day
## Hospital Cash Benefits from the very FIRST DAY for covered SICKNESS! ACCIDENTS!

**A note from**
**NRECA Executive Vice President and General Manager, Bob Bergland, former U.S. Secretary of Agriculture**

I've been an enthusiastic supporter of the NRECA all my life. In fact, my father was one of the original incorporators of the Roseau Electric Cooperative in Minnesota, where I still own a farm.

The NRECA has been serving its members for over 50 years, and I'm very pleased it has stepped in to help them with the very serious health-cost crisis they are facing.

The American Hospital Association reports the average cost of a hospital stay is now well over $2,400.00. And yet, most health policies pay only 80%, or less, of that bill. And pay that only after a deductible of $100.00 or more. Medicare, of course, pays even less.

So the harsh reality is, if you should have an accident or become ill, the exorbitant cost of medical care could cost you hundreds, even thousands of dollars out of your own pocket. You may be forced to use your hard-earned savings—or even have to borrow money to pay your share of the bill.

That's why the RE Member Group Hospital Plan is so important. It gives you the protection you need to help make up the difference in hospital costs your present insurance doesn't pay—and at *low group rates.*

The NRECA has always taken its responsibilities to you, our RE consumers, seriously. So when we recommend the RE Member Group Hospital Plan, you can be sure it is one of the BEST values in America today!

Bob Bergland

### Here's how your RE Plan helps you beat the rising cost of hospital care:

**Pays you $1,500.00 a month—$350.00 a week—$50.00 a day cash!**

You'll collect these cash benefits whenever you are hospitalized for a covered sickness or accident. In fact, you'll collect when your doctor places you in the hospital for any reason—even a simple checkup. You're even covered for normal childbirth when pregnancy occurs anytime after your certificate is issued.

**Pays you $2,250.00 a month—$75.00 a day—for Cancer, Heart Attack**

Your daily benefits are increased 50% if you or any covered member of your family is hospitalized for cancer (including leukemia and Hodgkin's disease) or heart attack (acute myocardial infarction).

**Pays you double benefits; $6,000.00 a month—$200.00 a day—for you and your spouse**

Under the Husband-Wife or All-Family Plans, you'll collect double your regular benefits during the time you and your spouse are both in the hospital—due to the same or different accidents.

**Pays full benefits for all ages from the very first day**

You'll collect $50-a-day cash benefits from the VERY FIRST DAY and for EVERY DAY you're hospitalized for a covered sickness or accident—regardless of age.

Since hospitals charge the same for all ages, we feel it's only right for everyone to collect the same benefits.

You'll find that many plans have reduced benefits for younger or older age groups. But your RE Member Group Hospital Plan has no reductions for anyone at any age—even after 65.

**Pays cash benefits directly to you—in addition to any other insurance**

You'll collect benefits over and above any other insurance—including major medical, workers' compensation—even Medicare.

And that's what makes your RE Member Group Hospital Plan so important—because many health policies pay only 80% of your hospital bill. We send the check straight to you to spend as you wish—to help pay the leftover bills, or even household expenses. Of course, if you prefer, you can tell us to send the benefits to your hospital or doctor. The choice is yours.

What's more, your benefits are not subject to state or federal income tax.

**You get lifetime coverage and benefits**

There is no limit to the number of days you can collect benefits—even if you're hospitalized for the rest of your life, as long as the Master Policy is in force.

**We can't cancel your protection or raise your rates individually**

You cannot be singled out for cancellation—no matter how old you become or how many claims you have.

What's more, we can never raise your rates unless we do so for all certificates like yours issued under this group plan. And—your rate will not change when you move from one age group to another—even if your health changes.

**Please note these limitations**

For confinement due to mental illness, half benefits are paid for up to 30 days.

Old health problems (those that became evident or were treated before the effective date of your certificate) are not covered for the first year of your certificate. But once that year is up, these pre-existing conditions are covered!

### *Plus . . . a special added benefit!*

**Up to $10,000.00 Cash Benefits for Accidental Death or Dismemberment**

In addition to the hospital benefits provided, if you or a covered family member is killed or injured in an accident, we will pay benefits in the following amounts. Of course, this is for covered accidents that happen while your certificate is in force.

| Loss of life, both arms, both legs, one arm and one leg, or sight of both eyes: | Insured | Spouse | Child |
|---|---|---|---|
| | $10,000 | $10,000 | $2,000 |
| **Loss of one arm, one leg or one eye:** | | | |
| | $5,000 | $5,000 | $1,000 |

**You can't be turned down! No salesman will call**

We guarantee to issue your RE Member Group Hospital Plan regardless of your age, health or size of family. As soon as we receive your completed acceptance form, we will issue your certificate and put it in force. No salesman will call!

Your coverage begins immediately. There is no waiting period. Of course, we can issue only one certificate to you on a guaranteed issue basis.

## Your certificate will come to you in this handsome vinyl document holder

It's yours to keep even if you change your mind about your need for this extra protection.

***Compliments of your***
**NRECA and Physicians Mutual Insurance Company**

## Questions?

**Call your NRECA Customer Service Representative Toll-Free at Physicians Mutual—**

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**With these plans, you can insure family members at a greater savings than buying separate insurance—and all collect full cash benefits!**

### Individual Plan

Ideal for the single person . . . or for the individual family member who needs protection and wants separate insurance.

### Husband-Wife Plan

Designed for the married couple without children or whose children are grown. Pays full benefits for both of you—no reductions for the spouse.

### All-Family Plan

Offers protection for the entire family—father, mother and all eligible dependent children—with full benefits for all. Future additions to the family are covered automatically at no extra cost.

### One-Parent Family Plan

Created for the special needs of the single parent. Covers you and all eligible dependent children with full benefits for all.

## NOW Choose the Benefit OPTION You Need . . .

**Your First Month's Premium is Only $1.00! Then Continue at the Low Monthly Rate Shown.**

Both options pay you cash benefits beginning the very first day you're hospitalized for a covered sickness or accident.

Check Option A or Option B and the Plan you've chosen on the Acceptance Form below . . . then mail it to Physicians Mutual with your $1.00 today.

**A** — **$1,500.00 a month / $50.00 a day**

| | MONTHLY PREMIUMS Under 60 | 60 and Over (use age of principal insured) |
|---|---|---|
| Individual Plan | $15.35 | $23.35 |
| Husband-Wife Plan | 29.75 | 45.75 |
| All-Family Plan | 34.95 | 50.95 |
| One-Parent Family Plan | 20.55 | 28.55 |

**B** — **$900.00 a month / $30.00 a day**

| | MONTHLY PREMIUMS Under 60 | 60 and Over (use age of principal insured) |
|---|---|---|
| Individual Plan | $ 9.95 | $14.95 |
| Husband-Wife Plan | 18.75 | 28.75 |
| All-Family Plan | 21.95 | 31.95 |
| One-Parent Family Plan | 13.15 | 18.15 |

**NOTE:** ***Your renewal rate does not increase and your benefits do not decrease as you move from one age group to another.***

**When your certificate arrives, you'll be given the opportunity to save 8 1/3% by paying your premiums once a year, instead of each month. If you choose to do so, you'll be getting 12 months for the price of 11!**

**NOW**—just complete your guaranteed acceptance form below and mail with $1.00 today to: Physicians Mutual Insurance Company, 42nd and Dodge, P.O. Box 3313, Omaha, Nebraska 68172. No salesman will call.

(cut on dotted line)

## MEMBER GROUP HOSPITAL PLAN—GUARANTEED ACCEPTANCE FORM (Please Print)

**NAME** _____ (First / Middle Initial / Last)

**ADDRESS** _____ (Street / Apt. No. / City / State / Zip)

**PHONE NO.** (_____) _____ (for customer service only) **SEX** (check one) Male ☐ Female ☐

**DATE OF BIRTH** _____ (Month Day Year) **AGE** _____

**Choose the Plan You Want** (check one)

- ☐ Individual Plan 4
- ☐ All-Family Plan 1
- ☐ Husband-Wife Plan 3
- ☐ One-Parent Plan 2

**Select Option You Prefer** (check one)

- ☐ **OPTION A**—Pays $50 a day from very first day for sickness or accident. 35449-404
- ☐ **OPTION B**—Pays $30 a day from very first day for sickness or accident. 35449-403

**Information About Your Spouse**
(complete if you choose the Husband-Wife or All-Family Plan)

**NAME** _____ (First / Middle Initial)

**DATE of BIRTH** _____ (Month Day Year) **SEX** _____

I enclose my first month's premium of $1.00. I understand the certificate is not in force until issued and benefits will not be paid for old health problems unless confinement begins more than one year after the issue date.

**SIGNATURE X** _____ **DATE** _____
Insured's Signature SIGN—DO NOT PRINT

**Please make check or money order payable to:**
**Physicians Mutual 42nd and Dodge P.O. Box 3313 Omaha, Nebraska 68172**

E-400

## Century Farm Family Certification Offered

Applications are being accepted for the Century Farm Family certification program, sponsored by the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and the N.C. State Fair.

The Century Farm Family program honors those families who have had *continuous* ownership of a farm for at least 100 years. By ownership, it is meant that the farm—in whole or part—must be owned by a blood relative of the original owner or a legally adopted child of a descendant. Continuous residence in North Carolina by that relative or descendant is not required, but the title to the property must be continuous, according to NCDA officials.

Proof of ownership for 100 years or more by the same family is required. This proof can be an abstract of a title, an original deed or land patents. Other authentic land records may be acceptable in some cases.

Those families designated as

## 28 EMCs Represented In 50th Anniversary Commemorative Quilt

This hand-made quilt was put together as a cooperative venture by the 28 North Carolina Electric Membership Corporations to commemorate this year's 50th Anniversary of the beginnings of rural electrification.

It features a square symbolic of each EMC as well as the N.C. Association of Electric Cooperatives (N.C. AEC) and the Rural Electrification Administration. Each of the co-ops arranged for an artisan to prepare an original square for use in the quilt, which will be exhibited at various EMCs and at the N. C. AEC headquarters in Raleigh. The project was coordinated by the N.C. AEC Women's Advisory Committee.

The squares represent: **Top row, from left**—French Broad EMC, Marshall; Rutherford EMC, Forest City; Randolph EMC, Asheboro; Wake EMC, Wake Forest; South River EMC, Dunn. **Second row, from left**—Tideland EMC, Pantego; Harkers Island EMC; Brunswick EMC, Shallotte; Crescent EMC, Statesville; Piedmont EMC, Hillsborough. **Third row, from left**—Four County EMC, Burgaw; Surry-Yadkin EMC, Dobson; N.C. AEC; Central EMC, Sanford, Jones-Onslow EMC, Jacksonville.

**Fourth row, from left**—Roanoke EMC, Rich Square; Blue Ridge EMC, Lenoir; REA; Edgecombe-Martin County EMC, Tarboro; Davidson EMC, Lexington. **Fifth row, from left**—Tri-County EMC, Dudley; Union EMC, Monroe; Albemarle EMC, Hertford; Pee Dee EMC, Wadesboro; Pitt and Greene EMC, Farmville. **Bottom row, from left**—Lumbee River EMC, Red Springs; Haywood EMC, Waynesville; Cape Hatteras EMC, Buxton; Carteret-Craven EMC, Morehead City; Halifax EMC, Enfield.

Century Farm Families will receive a certificate officially designating them as a Century Farm Family. Century Farm Family designees will also receive an official metal Century Farm Family sign, suitable for placement on a mailbox, farm building or farm sign. However, only one certificate and sign will be issued for a piece of property and a Century Farm can only be designated once.

If a farm has been designated previously as a Century Farm, descendents need not apply again.

The deadline for application for designation, which occurs only every five years, is Aug. 20. Due to the number of Century Farm Families in North Carolina—close to 1,500—there will be no ceremony at the 1985 N.C. State Fair. Rather, families receiving the Century Farm designation will receive by mail their certificate of designation, official sign number and book listing all Century Farm Families, along with a congratulatory letter from Agriculture Commissioner Jim Graham.

Applications for the Century Farm Family program are available by writing: Public Affairs Division, N.C. Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 27647, Raleigh, N.C. 27611 or by calling 919/733-4216. In addition, applications may also be obtained at your local county agricultural extension office or county offices of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS).

## Fiddlers Convention Slated in Jefferson

Ashe County's 16th Annual Old Time Fiddlers Convention is scheduled for Aug. 3 at 6 p.m. at Jefferson's Ashe Park.

Overnight campers will be welcome, according to officials planning the event.

For more information, write or call Bernard Goss, Rotary Club, West Jefferson, N.C. 28694. Phone: (919) 246-7138—day; (919) 877-1945—night

## Cover: Linville River

This scene on the Linville River in the Linville Gorge Wilderness area near Boone was photographed by Jim Clark of Bahama.

## Jones-Onslow EMC Gets REA Loan

Jones-Onslow Electric Membership Corporation, Jacksonville, has been awarded a $4.8 million loan from the Rural Electrification Administration for an expansion project.

The loan will help finance construction of 140 miles of line distributing power to about 5,000 potential consumers. The project will also include construction of five miles of transmission line and other system improvements.

The REA loan will cover 70 percent of the funding needed for the project, with the remainder being financed through the National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation.

Once the project is completed, the EMC will serve about 37,000 consumer-members in Lenoir, Jones, Onslow, Duplin, Pender and Craven Counties.

## Directors Re-elected At Blue Ridge EMC

Four incumbents have been re-elected to the Board of Directors of Blue Ridge Electric Membership Corporation, Lenoir, during the co-op's recent annual meeting.

Re-elected were Charity Gambill of Sparta; Richard Shepherd of Rt. 2, Lansing; Oren L. Teague of Rt. 2, Granite Falls and Bill E. Brown of Rt. 1, Boone.

*Continued on page 8*

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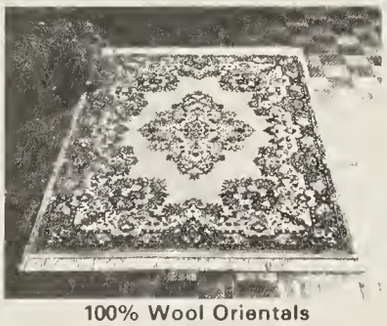

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*Continued from page 7*

### Turfgrass Pest Management Manual Is Published

A manual to help homeowners and professional turf managers in the proper management of the state's one million acres of turfgrass has been published by the N.C. Agricultural Extension Service at North Carolina State University.

The *Turfgrass Pest Management Manual* is the first comprehensive publication of its type and includes in its 64 pages color photographs to assist in the identification of popular turfgrasses and the three major pests of turfgrass—weeds, diseases and insects.

Narrative information suggests ways of dealing with the pests through management and, when necessary, the use of safe, approved pesticides.

"We are attempting to help inform the public of the importance of proper management of pests at non-damaging levels," explained publication editor Dr. Arthur Bruneau, NCSU extension turfgrass specialist.

"This kind of management begins with proper identification of the grasses themselves and the pests attacking them so the homeowner or professional knows what he or she is dealing with," the specialist added.

"Through education, we would like to help make more certain that the estimated $450 million spent annually in North Carolina on turf management is a good investment.

Copies of *Turfgrass Pest Management Manual* are available for $5 each from Crop Science Extension, Box 7620, NCSU, Raleigh, NC 27695. Part of the cost of the publication was offset by a grant from the Carolinas Golf Association.

### Varied Schedule Planned At Brevard Music Center

Jazz pianist Peter Nero and singer Roberta Peters are among the guest artists who'll perform during the Brevard Music Center's 49th season, now through Aug. 11.

More than 50 concert events, ranging from grand opera and symphony to a chamber music series, are scheduled at the center.

Peter Nero performs July 21 and Roberta Peters, July 28.

In addition to the guest artist festival programs, the center presents seven staged musical productions, three pops concerts, week-night band and orchestra concerts and symphony chorus programs. Some events are free.

For more information about the performance schedule and for ticket orders, write or call Brevard Music Center, P.O. Box 592, Brevard, N.C. 28712. Phone: (704) 884-2019. Phone orders for tickets are accepted with Visa/Mastercard.

### Home Folks

**Joe Speight Sugg**, retired executive secretary of the North Carolina Peanut Growers Association, has been inducted into the National Peanut Council's Peanut Hall of Fame ..... **State Rep. Harry Payne** of New Hanover County has been named Consumer Advocate of the Year by the N.C. Consumers Council ..... **Amy Bloodworth** of Clinton represented North Carolina at the sixth annual Pause for the Pledge of Allegiance observance on Flag Day in Baltimore. The 17-year-old Clinton High School student carried her state flag in a Parade of Flags and participated in the unveiling of a huge replica of the banner that flew over Fort McHenry when Francis Scott Key wrote the National Anthem in 1814 ..... **Paul Moyer Limbert** of Black Mountain, former secretary general of the World Alliance of YMCAs, was one of the first inductees in the new YMCA Hall of Fame at Springfield College in Springfield, Mass. Limbert is a former president of the college ..... **Dr. Perry Kelly**, associate professor of art at Western Carolina University, has been named N.C. Art Educator for 1985 by the N.C. Art Education Association ..... **Dan Southern**, head of the medical technology program at Western Carolina, has been named this year's recipient of the Outstanding Medical Technology Educator Award from the Scientific Assembly of the American Society of Medical Technology ..... **Atha Lemones Gibbs** of Harrisburg, a truck driver with Thurston Motor Lines, Inc., has received the N.C. Driver of the Year award from Gov. James G. Martin. Gibbs has driven 35 years without a chargeable accident ..... **State Rep. Liston B. Ramsey** of Madison County has received the N.C. Public Service Award from the N.C. Public Service Award Society.

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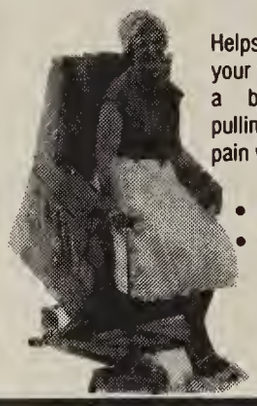

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*For Energy Conservation*

# Grants Offered To Nonprofit Groups

Grants of up to $100,000 for solar space heating systems and up to $5,000 for energy conservation measures are now available to North Carolina nonprofit organizations through the federal Solar Energy and Energy Conservation Bank (SEECB).

The program is being administered on a state level by the Energy Division of the N.C. Department of Commerce, and is being offered to nonprofit organizations through the Energy Conservation Fund, a project of the nonprofit North Carolina Alternative Energy Corporation.

"This program provides nonprofit organizations with the opportunity to install energy conservation or solar energy measures on their buildings at bargain basement prices," said Larry Shirley Director of the North Carolina Energy Conservation Fund.

"Most nonprofit groups can receive a grant for about 20 percent of the installed cost of these measures. The dollars they save from reduced energy bills can then be used for other needed programs," Shirley added.

Eligible nonprofit organizations include a variety of groups such as day care centers, community centers, museums, YMCAs and YWCAs, Boy and Girl Scouts, Salvation Armies, retirement homes, volunteers, fire departments and rescue squads.

In order to qualify for a grant, a nonprofit organization must own or lease the building they are seeking to improve.

Energy conservation measures will only be subsidized in buildings built before Jan. 1, 1980. Solar energy measures, however, may be subsidized in any buildings, including new construction, Shirley said.

Nonprofit organizations are eligible to receive SEECB subsidies provided that their revenues from selling goods or services do not exceed $1 million for the previous year.

Grants will be issued by reducing the principal or interest rates on loans taken out by nonprofit organizations to pay for the energy conservation or solar energy measures. Organizations need not borrow the full cost of the measure in order to receive a subsidy.

Loans must be taken out from a lending institution that has signed up with the N.C. Energy Division to participate in the program.

Lending institutions that are currently participating include Wachovia Bank and Trust Co., Central Carolina Bank, Sovran Mortgage Corp., Northwestern Mortgage Corp., Piedmont Natural Gas Co., Hillsborough Savings and Loan Assoc. and Edgecombe Homestead Loan Assoc.

In addition to offering the Solar and Conservation Bank, the North Carolina Energy Conservation Fund (ECF) operates two principal programs for nonprofit organizations. The first is the Energy Services Program in which the ECF helps medium to large agencies put an energy management program in place for their facility.

The ECF's Low-Cost Weatherization Program is designed to help small nonprofit organizations implement energy conservation measures using their agency's volunteer labor. Working with a local sponsor such as an electric membership corporation, the ECF will assist 20-40 small nonprofits at one time within a local area.

The ECF is managed and operated by the Alternative Energy Corporation, a private nonprofit agency established by the N. C. Utilities Commission in 1980 and supported by the state's electric utilities.

Nonprofit organizations that are interested in applying for the grants or obtaining more information on the ECF's programs should write to John Manuel at the Energy Conservation Fund, North Carolina Alternative Energy Corporation, P.O. Box 12699, Research Triangle Park, N.C. 27709, or phone (919) 549-9046.


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Hugh Hammond Bennett

# Soil Conservation Marks Its Golden Anniversary

**The movement begun by Hugh Hammond Bennett in Anson County has set a standard for erosion control practices that has won worldwide acceptance.**

History is often made in the chambers of the National Capitol. Wars are declared and peace heralded. Far-reaching programs like Social Security and the beginnings of rural electrification are enacted.

But history is sometimes made outside the halls of Congress.

Fifty years ago a North Carolinian named Hugh Hammond Bennett took members of key committees outside the Capitol, on the same marble steps where tourists stop for photographs.

Gesturing dramatically toward the western skies, he told the lawmakers that the dark clouds they could see had blown all the way from the "Dust Bowl" of Oklahoma.

The congressmen returned to their chambers and enacted the world's first national conservation programs.

The U.S. Soil Conservation Service was created under legislation that was effective April 27, 1935.

Soil and water conservation districts and the Soil Conservation Society of America came soon after.

The movement that led to enactment of the legislation was begun by Dr. Bennett, an Anson County native who has come to be known as the "Father of Conservation." And it's no coincidence that the program's first district—Brown Creek Soil and Water Conservation District—was in Dr. Bennett's home county.

About 700 conservationists and state and local officials gathered on the Hugh Bennett farm recently to mark the golden anniversary of the national conservation programs.

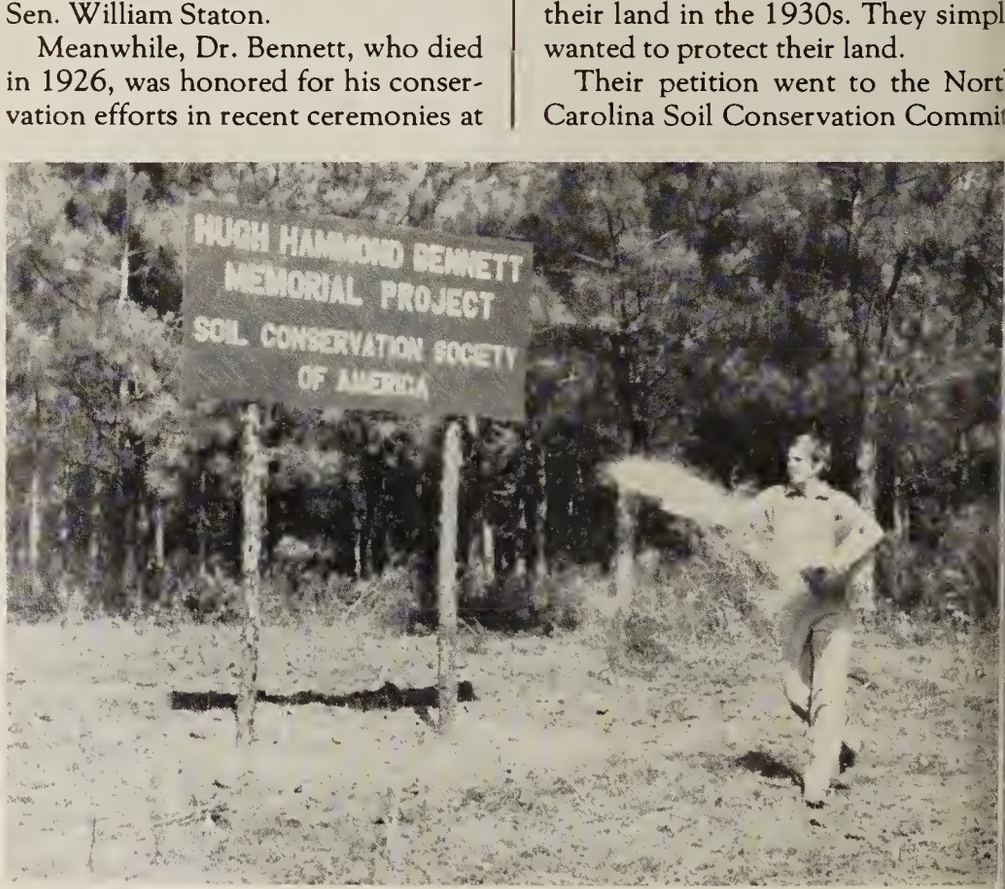
The anniversary was also marked by the adoption of a bill by the North Carolina General Assembly—effective April 27—honoring Dr. Bennett, the Soil Conservation Service and the district movement. The bill had been submitted by Anson County Rep. Foyle Hightower Jr. and Lee County Sen. William Staton.

Meanwhile, Dr. Bennett, who died in 1926, was honored for his conservation efforts in recent ceremonies at Kansas City inducting him into th U.S. Agricultural Hall of Fame. Th honor recognizes lasting contribution to American agriculture.

Many North Carolinians who knew "Big Hugh"—as Dr. Bennett was ofte called—believe his Tar Heel root and his soils training combined t inspire his outrage at the loss of vita topsoil to erosion. He made histor by putting his outrage to work, devel oping modern conservation practices

But there was no thought of makin history among the 30 land owner who circulated a petition to protec their land in the 1930s. They simpl wanted to protect their land.

Their petition went to the Nort Carolina Soil Conservation Commit




**Dick Fowler of the Soil Conservation Society of America sows grass seed at the site of the planned Hugh Hammond Bennett Memorial Project in Anson County, where the nation's soil conservation program began 50 years ago.**

tee, a fledgling body established in the 1937 General Assembly session.

The petition defined boundaries, including several adjacent counties and sought a vote of landowners on the idea of starting a conservation program.

By a vote of 300 to 1, the Brown Creek District was approved. (The one holdout later changed his vote.)

Secretary of State Thad Eure also made history on Aug. 4, 1937, when he signed the certificate of the Brown Creek Soil and Water District.

It was the first in the state, in the nation and in the world. The event made headlines in North Carolina and across the nation.

Other districts were soon established.

Today, the U.S. has more than 3,000 districts and many foreign nations have similar groups.

The first conservation plan—a set of measures to control erosion—in the first district was on the farm owned by Dr. F. Y. Sorrell.

It involved 248 acres and included plans for crop rotation on 121 acres, terraces on 114 acres, "meadow strips" (which today would be called grassed waterways) on 2.7 acres and a lot of land planted in sheltering trees.

There were also special plantings to provide food and habitat for wildlife.

It was only natural that Hugh Bennett should be first chief of the Soil Conservation Service. In fact, he had also headed the earlier Soil Erosion Service, in the U.S. Department of the Interior.

He was also the key to establishing the Soil Conservation Society of America, the organization that now owns 19 acres of the Bennett homeplace—the site where the North Carolina celebration was held—given by the Bennett family.

The society is now working to create a memorial to Hugh Bennett on that land and already has the site attractively cleared, fenced and [illegible] for the next step.

The project has already rece[illegible] considerable support among con[illegible]vationists in North Carolina and fr[illegible] the U. S. Congress.

Even as the anniversary is being celebrated and as many foreign lands emulate the U. S. example, the Soil Conservation Service faces an important test.

Budget proposals currently being considered in Congress would eliminate the Soil Conservation Service funding and its functions. However, supporters of SCS across the nation are now working to keep the agency in business.

While considerable progress has been made in solving erosion problems and such related threats as flooding and environmental destruction, SCS backers maintain that the job is a continuing one—a task that cannot be dropped.

*—Frank Jeter Jr.*

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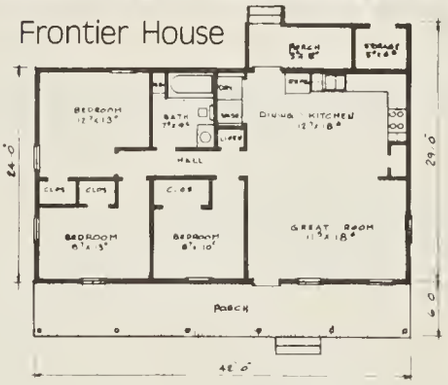


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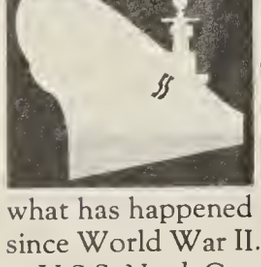
*In New Booklet*

# U. S. S. North Carolina Profiled

The U.S. North Carolina Battleship Memorial in Wilmington, which attracts an average of 230,000 visitors each year, is the subject of a new booklet published by the Historical Publications Section of the N.C. Department of Cultural Resources.



The 14-page paperback booklet describes the construction and launching of the ship and discusses its participation in virtually all the major campaigns fought in the Pacific Theater during World War II.

Written by Joe A. Mobley, the booklet sets the ship's construction in 1937 in the context of the international arms race that was escalating at that time. It also explains what has happened to this ship and others of its type during the four decades since World War II.

*U.S.S. North Carolina: Symbol of A Vanished Age*, is available for $1 a copy at the Battleship Memorial, the N.C. Museum of History in Raleigh, some state historic sites and commercial bookstores.

It may also be ordered for $1 per copy, plus 50 cents for postage and handling, from the Historical Publications Section, Division of Archives and History, 109 E. Jones St., Raleigh, N.C. 28611. Checks should be made payable to the Department of Cultural Resources.

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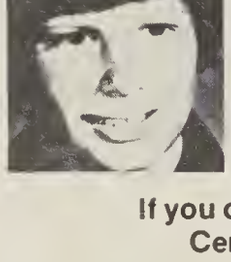
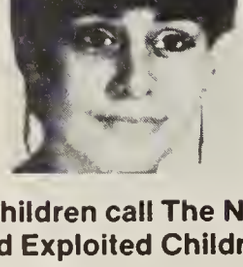


**John David Gosch**

**DATE MISSING: 9/5/82**
**FROM: West Des Moines, IA**
**DOB: 11/12/69**
**WHITE MALE**
**EYES: Blue**
**HEIGHT: 5'7"**
**WEIGHT: 140**
**HAIR: Brown**



**Juanita Rafela Estevez**

**DATE MISSING: 11/27/84**
**FROM: Yuba City, CA**
**DOB: 6/3/69**
**HISPANIC FEMALE**
**EYES: Brown**
**HEIGHT: 5'5"**
**WEIGHT: 135**
**HAIR: Brown**

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This message is brought to you by the National Child Watch Campaign™ a cooperative effort between the National Child Safety Council, The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children and the American Gas Association.

National Child Safety Council is a non-profit organization supported solely by private contributions. The Council assists law enforcement agencies in the effort to combat the national tragedy of missing children in every state in the continental United States. If you would like to assist their efforts to help locate other missing children, please send your tax-deductible contribution to: MISSING CHILDREN SEARCH, National Child Safety Council™, P.O. Box 1368, Jackson, Michigan 49204.

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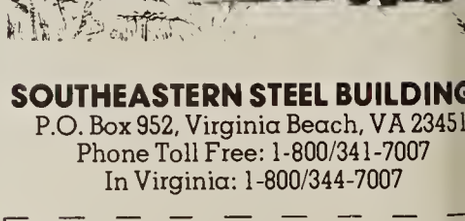

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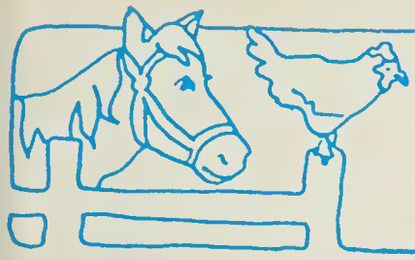


GOD'S CREATURES

# Warning: Dog Ticks May Carry Deadly Infestation

This summer a number of North Carolinians will be infected by Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, a tick-borne disease which affects hundreds of Americans each year.

Symptoms of the disease include rashes, fever and headache. The result can be shock, coma and eventually death.

According to Dr. Edward B. Breitschwerdt, associate professsor of medicine at North Carolina State University's School of Veterinary Medicine, there is no evidence that dogs transmit the disease to people, but pets can bring infected ticks into the home where they might attach themselves to humans.

When an infected tick bites a human or an animal, it transmits into the bloodstream a potentially lethal microorganism called *Rickettsia rickettsii.*

"Considering the sheer number of people who live in North Carolina, those who become seriously ill or die from the disease are relatively few," he said. (Twelve died in 1982.)

The disease organism, closely related to both bacteria and viruses, is carried by the American dog tick, according to Dr. Charles S. Apperson, NCSU associate professor of entomology.

Because only one tick species carries the fever, the total number of ticks found in a particular region of the state isn't necessarily indicative of a high risk area.

Most commonly found in the Piedmont and western areas of North Carolina, the American dog tick can be identified by whitish, mottled markings on its reddish-brown body.

Dr. Apperson said any county extension office or health department can provide a pet owner with positive identification of a suspicious tick.

To lessen the chances of a pet bringing an infected tick into the home, pet owners should de-tick their pets regularly and if they wish, chemically treat outdoor areas, he said.

"Outdoor dogs should be de-ticked every couple of days. To prevent being bitten by a tick while doing this, the owner should wear rubber gloves or use a paper towel to pick the ticks off the dog's body. All ticks that are removed should be destroyed," Dr. Apperson said.

In addition, pet owners can apply chemicals to pet quarters, crawl spaces and foundations to help control tick populations.

If homeowners find a large number of American dog ticks, they may wish to chemically treat the wooded area near their home.

Dr. Apperson said local county extension agents or health departments can give advice on which insecticides to use.

Dr. Breitschwerdt is researching the occurrence of the disease in dogs and the corresponding incidence of the disease in humans from the same area.

"The more we learn about the fever and its prevalence in a given area, the more prepared we will be to avoid serious illness in humans," he said.

## EMC ANNUAL MEETINGS CALENDAR

| Date | Electric Membership Corporation | Time | Location |
|---|---|---|---|
| **July** | | | |
| **19** | Randolph, Asheboro | Registration: 6:30 p.m. Business Meeting: 8:00 p.m. | Lee J. Stone Stadium, Asheboro High School |
| **Aug.** | | | |
| **16** | Pee Dee, Wadesboro | Registration: 7:00 p.m. Business Meeting: 8:00 p.m. | Anson High School Football Stadium, Wadesboro |
| **24** | Haywood, Waynesville | Registration: 8:30 a.m. Business Meeting: 10:30 a.m. | Tuscola High School Near Waynesville |
| **24** | Roanoke, Rich Square | Registration: 11:00 a.m. Business Meeting: 1:00 p.m. | Roanoke EMC Headquarters-Arena |

# Haywood County To Host Dance Festival

The stage is now being set for the second Folkmoot USA, the international folk festival that caught the fancy of thousands of people and packed Western North Carolina performance halls last August.

If you missed last year's gathering of talented dancers from seven European countries, Mexico and the U.S., you get another chance to share in the excitement and pageantry of Haywood County's giant cultural exchange, Aug. 2-12.

This year's festival, with an entirely different cast, promises to be just as exciting as the first.

Performing groups from France, Italy, Belgium and Guadalajara are already scheduled to be a part of the 1985 Folkmoot. Invitations have also been extended to folk groups from Wales, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Scotland and Canada.

The Haywood County festival is apparently unique for this country. Performances are by foreign entertainers—all amateurs—who have traveled to America from their own countries, rather than by ethnic groups who have settled in the United States.

Folkmoot, in old English, is a meeting of the people. And that it is, for the foreign delegations are eager to mingle with folks from the U.S., to experience as much of the American culture as possible in ten days. This intermingling is one of the festival's unique features.

The performers are not professionals but ordinary citizens—professional people, educators, blue-collar workers—who find time to combine their dedication to preservation of their native traditions in music and dance with their everyday lives.

Their costumes are authentic reproductions and their dance, carefully researched, symbolic of life and rituals of a long-ago time.

The foreign visitors will live in Waynesville's Tuscola High School converted temporarily into a hostel and travel to performances on chartered buses.

The opening performance is set for the Stompin' Ground in Maggie Valley and the final show will be in Stuart Auditorium at Lake Junaluska. In between, other performances will be held at these sites as well as in the county's two high schools and in other Western North Carolina towns.

The festival, a non-profit corporation, is governed by a 35-member board of directors with Dr. Clinton L. Border Jr. as president and Charles M. Starnes, a high school principal, as director.

The making of Folkmoot evolved over a 12 year period.

Traveling to international folk dance and music festivals in Europe with Haywood County cloggers and musicians, Dr. Border, a Waynesville surgeon who is now retired, saw the potential in bringing such an event to North Carolina.

A man of foresight and considerable drive, Dr. Border convinced community leaders in his hometown that Haywood County could foster such a cultural exchange and promote international good will by sponsoring its own international folk festival.

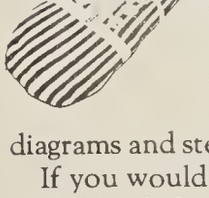
For more information, write to Folkmoot USA, P.O. Box 523, Waynesville, N.C. 28786. Phone (704) 452-2997.

## KID'S STUFF

# A "Sneaky" Sleeping Bag

You could say this is a "sneaky" sleeping bag! After all, it's designed to look just like a real sneaker.

The top has all the features of a tennis shoe: two rows of eyelets, a stripe across the instep, a tongue and shoestrings.



The sleeping bag measures 32 inches across the widest part of the foot, 23 inches across the heel opening and about 66 inches long. The opening is large enough for kids up to about twelve years old, but you can adjust the size to your liking.

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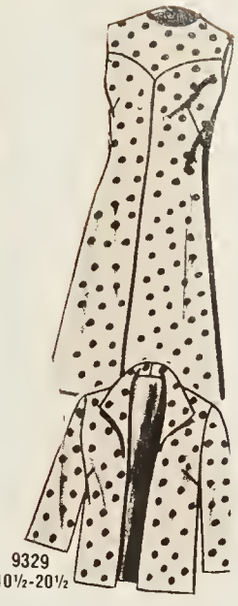
Mail your order to: Kids' Stuff, Dept. 27611, P.O. Box 1000, Bixby, Okla. 74008.

# PINS · N · NEEDLES




Pattern No. 9374 is cut in Misses Sizes 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20.
Pattern No. 9013 is cut in Half Sizes 10½, 12½, 14½, 16½, 18½, 20½, 22½, 24½ and 26½.
Pattern No. 4969 is cut in Misses Sizes 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20.
Pattern No. 9329 is cut in Half Sizes 10½, 12½, 14½, 16½, 18½ and 20½.
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# COUNTRY KITCHEN

## Want To Share Your Recipes?

**If you would like to share a recipe with this column, send it to: CAROLINA COUNTRY, P.O. Box 27306, Raleigh, NC 26711.**

**We pay $5 for published recipes and present each monthly winner a set of 50 recipe cards with the winning recipe printed on them.**

## Chocolate Eclair Cake

Submitted by Jewell P. Gilliam of Rt. 1, Youngsville

2 packages vanilla instant pudding
1 box graham crackers
3 cups milk
1 medium-sized container non-dairy topping

Combine pudding and milk. Beat until thick, then fold in non-dairy topping.

In a 9 x 13 dish, layer bottom with graham crackers (whole not crushed). Put layer of mix, then another layer of crackers and mix, ending with a layer of crackers on top.

**Icing:** 1/3 cup cocoa 1/4 cup evaporated milk 1 cup sugar

Bring above ingredients to boil, stirring constantly. Let cool one minute and add 1 stick of margarine, 1 tsp. vanilla. Mix thoroughly and pour over cake. (Chopped pecans on top are optional.) Refrigerate overnight before serving.

WASHINGTON SCENE

# Reagan's Tax Proposal: It Could Be His Most Memorable Achievement

*"Don't tax him, don't tax me,*
*Tax that fellow behind that tree."*

*—U.S. Sen. Russell Long*
*(D.-Louisiana)*

President Ronald Reagan, sounding more like a populist than a conservative Republican, has launched a tax reform plan that could go down as the most memorable and historic achievement of his eight years in the White House.

Just when political pundits in Washington and elsewhere were saying he was losing his clout in Congress, where he had suffered a number of reverses on aid to Nicaragua rebels, the MX missile and his defense budget, he seized on what political observers see as a popular program and started selling it like he once sold Twenty Mule Team Borax.

He had plenty to talk about. The unfairness of the present income tax system, which hardly anyone except perhaps H. & R. Block can understand, is clear.

For example, take the case of an ordinary citizen who lives in a city and goes out to see his favorite team play baseball. He buys his ticket, on which he pays a tax and sits down in the stadium which was at least partially built with city bonds, financed by his taxes.

Up above in the fancy boxes, he can see more fortunate people sitting as guests of a corporation, which can legally deduct the cost of its tickets as a business expense.

If the fellow thought about how unfair it was, he might get angry and write his congressman.

Polls show that as the tax code has gotten more complex, more and more people believe it is unfair and some are openly cheating on it and not feeling guilty.

With people generally feeling government is not playing fair with them on how they are taxed, it seems that a plan to simplify the tax code would be an easy thing to sell, but there are problems.

That was made clear by a *USA Today* poll that was taken in June. While nearly 70 percent of those polled thought the tax code should be made simpler and 51 percent felt that Reagans plan would be fairer than the present system, most people didn't like some of the key points the President is trying to sell.

A majority said that cancelling the deduction for property taxes would be less fair; and most agreed that the present system's provisions allowing deductions for sales taxes and state income taxes, shouldn't be changed.

Most people also objected to the Reagans plan's proposal to tax employer-paid benefits, such as insurance.

So you have most people saying that a change is needed, that the Reagan plan is fairer but they don't like many of the things the President is proposing.

The people polled were individual taxpayers. A poll of corporation presidents would no doubt have been even more divided.

The R. J. Reynolds Co., no doubt, approves of the Reagan plan; its taxes would be reduced by more than $100 million a year.

But textile manufacturers would have objections: their taxes would go up.

The Reagan plan eliminates many of the tax breaks now being given to industries, such as textiles, which must invest in machinery.

This caused Charles Dunn, executive vice president of the N.C. Textile Manufacturers Association to say of the plan, "This proposal discourages investment at a time we can ill afford not to invest."

These proposed changes in the way big business is taxed prompted nearly every lobbyist in Washington to descend on Capitol Hill before the ink on the plan was dry.

**"By administration estimates, under the proposed plan, 60 percent of the people would pay less taxes, 20 percent would pay more and 20 percent would pay the same. That was enough for people to cheer when Reagan called the present income tax "unpatriotic"**

But one industry was conspicuously absent. The oil and gas companies got in before the tax package was written and preserved most of their advantages. The reason given for this special treatment was that national security might suffer if the search for new oil and gas wells were discouraged.

Some other lobbying groups also ot in their licks early and were able o obtain some concessions.

Charities, for instance, were able to etain their deductions, but Reagan ants to give them that break only on eturns that are itemized. Most tax-ayers don't itemize.

Restaurants and private clubs, hich now benefit because customers an deduct the "three-martini lunch," ot a small concession because Reagan ecided only to limit—rather than ancel—deductions on business meals. he President also gave in a bit on the apital gains tax.

The President, immediately after is plan was made public, started out n a tour of the country, telling mericans that the tax code was wrong id castigating large corporations that ven't been paying their fair share.

If during his first term he often unded like Calvin Coolidge or erbert Hoover, he has been sounding is summer more like Franklin osevelt, a president big business beled "a traitor to his class."

Reagan had something appealing to ll to people who just a few weeks fore had been struggling with their deral tax returns.

By raising personal deductions and lowering the top tax bracket from to 35 percent, he was helping xpayers at both ends of the scale. ie poorest and richest would get the st benefits from his new revenue an.

(There was some opposition to the percent tax from those who felt rich didn't need that much help).

By administration estimates, 60 per-nt of the people would pay less es, 20 percent would pay more d 20 percent would pay the same.

That was enough for people to er when Ronald Reagan called the sent income tax "unpatriotic" and ed for a "citizens rebellion."

To emphasize his message, he made first appearance in Williamsburg, he site where Patrick Henry made famous tax address more than years ago.

Thus, Reagan is sounding the rds of patriotism and populism in moting his tax plan to the Ameri-people.

Meanwhile, Washington lobbyists are singing a different tune with lyrics by Louisiana's Sen. Russell Long as they try to persuade Congress to "tax that fellow behind that tree."

## Survey Finds Strong Support For Federal Power Policies

Most Americans disagree with proposals to change the way electricity is sold from federally owned hydroelectric plants, according to a nationwide survey done for the American Public Power Association.

"The public wants to keep the status quo" in marketing, production and distribution of federal power, said Bill Hamilton of the research firm of Hamilton & Staff, which conducted the survey.

The poll of 1,300 Americans found that a majority saw no need to change the present federal power arrangements and they supported the so-called "preference principle" that gives not-for-profit utilities such as municipal utilities and rural electric co-ops first call on federal power.

Overwhelming majorities of more than two-thirds thought that federal electric rates should be based on what it costs to produce the power rat[illegible] than what utilities were willing to pay and that the federal government should not earn a profit from electricity.

"People want a competitive electric utility industry," APPA Executive Director Alex Radan said at a news conference announcing the survey results. "They want their public water resources used for non-profit, public purposes. And, they support existing policies for pricing federal power."

APPA, which represents 1,750 publicly-owned utilities in the United States, commissioned the survey after suggestions that power from federal dams be sold to private investors. The most recent assault came in February's White House budget proposal which would have raised interest rates on 30- or 40-year old debts to today's interest rates.

That idea received the most lopsided response in the survey. Asked whether the loans on federal hydro projects should be repaid at the original interest rate or at current rates, 86% said the original rates should remain while 10% thought today's interest rates should be used. The rest had no opinion.

# "Times Past"

"Times Past," the image that was featured on the cover of *Carolina Country's* May issue, is being offered as a signed and numbered limited edition print to mark this year's 50th Anniversary of the rural electrification program.

The original painting was done by Allen Montague of Raleigh under a commission by the North Carolina Association of Electric Cooperatives as part of its anniversary observance.

Montague, a "Lifetime Artist" with Ducks Unlimited, has his work catalogued by Southeby Park-Benet, the internationally known art auction house. Another of his paintings was featured on the *Carolina Country* cover last August.

The print features an image area of 22" by 16" plus the border.

The prints are priced at $50, including postage and handling.

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# HANK'S GARDENING GUIDE

Fun, relaxation and enjoyment of the outdoors are the order of the day during July. Garden tasks performed in the spring are paying dividends in colorful flowers, edible vegetables, lush lawns and welcome shade. Give watering top priority this month.

### Feeding

Fertilize annual bedding plants once or twice a month during the summer. After July, you'll want to discontinue monthly feedings of camellias and azaleas.

### Spent Flowers

Removing wilting and withering flowers will redirect energy used to manufacture seeds. This forces new growth and flower bud formation.

If plants are allowed to develop seeds, they are robbed of nutrients that are necessary for new growth. In some instances, growth will stop altogether. Among those that should be pinched and pruned are marigolds, zinnias, petunias, salvias, impatiens, coluses, begonias, dahlias, carnations and geraniums.

With geraniums, the removal of the spent flower is accomplished by simply twisting the flower stem at its base. This encourages immediate formation of the next flower bud.

### Fire Blight

If there are dead branches on your apple or pear tree and your pyracantha shrubs, it is very likely the plants have been attacked by fire blight. Leaves will be wilted and clinging to the twigs.

This destructive bacterial disease is best controlled now by pruning. When making cuts, prune at least a foot below the dead part of the twig. This assures the removal of all infected wood.

When pruning, dip the shears or clippers into a 10% solution of bleach solution (such as Clorox) between cuts. This prevents transmission of the disease to healthy wood.

### Lichen Infestations

Gardeners sometimes become concerned when they see heavy lichen growth on their shrubs. These scaly growths consist of algae and fungi that live in close association. They grow only on the stem surfaces, using the plant as a support.

Lichens most often appear on shrubs that are in poor or declining condition. They seldom appear on healthy plants. Lichens cause no apparent harm to plants, but they indicate that something is wrong.

Pruning to open up the plant provides better air circulation which can have a favorable effect. A good fertilizer program, mulching and watering often will bring the plant back to vigorous growth.

### Picking Figs

If you are among the lucky ones to have figs that survived last winter's freezes, you may be picking them for preserving and/or gathering to eat fresh.

For preserving, pick the figs several days before they fully ripen. This reduces damage from souring and splitting. Also, the fruit will hold together better when cooked. For eating fresh, pick figs as soon as they ripen. They have the best flavor then.

When pulling fruit from the tree, leave the stem attached to the fruit.

### Water! Water! Water!

July's heat calls for an alert eye toward carefully watering lawns and gardens. Special emphasis is given plants growing in containers. Most hanging baskets need watering each day.

The hydrangea is among the first to wilt when it's hot and thirsty. The wilting hydrangea usually indicates that all plants are in need of water.

### Lawns

As temperatures increase, raise t blade on your lawnmower about o half inch. This will provide m shade to keep the roots cooler.

If no fertilizer was applied in t spring, or if a quickly available ty was used, five pounds of ammoniu sulfate per 1,000 square feet of la should be applied now.

Water thoroughly after fertilizin

### Start That Fall Vegetable Garde

If you're now enjoying success w the garden you planted in the spri start now on a fall vegetable garden

Get the soil prepared and tra plants started as soon as possible the garden area was planted and fer ized this spring for crops that ha been harvested, very little, if a fertilizer will be needed. If it's a n garden site, apply two to three pou of complete fertilizer per 100 squ feet. Work fertilizer into soil.

Adequate water is of major imp tance. Water stress during ea growth can reduce later yields. Li watering three or four times a we may be necessary to keep soil fr drying out and crusting.

In seeding transplants, allow fo or five weeks from time of seeding setting the young plants in the gard Transplants of recommended variet may be difficult to find at this time year in garden centers.

Vegetables to plant during July a August include pole beans, tomato peppers, eggplants, potatoes, squ and okra.

### Syringe Azaleas

During hot weather, a fine mist water on azalea plants will help th stay healthy. Both sides of lea should receive water twice a we Azaleas not only thrive from syring but red spiders are discouraged forceful spraying with water.

Once a week, soak the root syst beneath the mulch.

*—Hank Sn*

# "It's Been A Good Life"

**The retired manager of Carteret-Craven EMC recalls highlights of a career that won him recent honors for his contributions to rural electrification.**

Scenes of political unrest and street olence from Latin America are ages that could come right out of day's TV news reports, but they're miliar to a Morehead City man cause he's lived through some of em.

"I remember one time when we re stopped and searched," said W. Carlton, recalling a visit to nezuela in 1965.

He and a group of other Americans re there to help the country develop electrification program.

The group was travelling in the des Mountains about 425 miles rth of Caracas—a capital city that s torn by frequent bombings and rrilla attacks on public buildings—en Venezuelan soldiers stopped m and conducted the search.

"They didn't hurt us, but I remem- it well."

The nation was then in turmoil tly because supporters of Cuban tator Fidel Castro wanted his style communist regime established in nezuela.

But the country was also taking s to improve the lot of her people, uding the development of an elec- cation program.

That effort brought Carlton and other Americans to Venezuela as erts in the field, representing the . State Department.

The incident in the Andes Moun- s is but one of Carlton's many d memories from a long career in l electrification—a tenure that n in 1950 when he became man- of Carteret-Craven Electric Mem- hip Corporation, Morehead City.

Now almost 12 years into retire- t, Carlton has been honored for e of his contributions to the na- l rural electric program.

**W. C. Carlton with his national Pioneer Award plaque.**

Earlier this year, he was one of 22 recipients of special Pioneer Awards presented by the National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation, a lending institution that provides loans to co-ops across the U.S.

Carlton served on a study commission that developed plans for the "bank" and was one of its first directors.

He also served on the board of directors of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association for eight years and participated in electrification start-up efforts in Costa Rica and India as well as Venezuela.

Carlton said he never planned on a career in utilities—and probably never would have settled on the Tar Heel coast if he had not married a Beaufort native.

He met Helen Hendrix in the early 1930s. Carlton was then a student at Mercer University. Miss Hendrix, the daughter of a Beaufort dentist, was attending Brenau College.

When she graduated, she began teaching at Middle Georgia College in Cochran, Ga. Carlton, whose father was dean of the college, married the new teacher in 1933.

They moved to Beaufort in 1935—the young bride missed her hometown—and Carlton became principal at Beaufort High School.

He remained there until 1938, when he became the state employment coordinator for the eastern North Carolina area. He was responsible for recruiting manpower to build Marine Corps installations at Cherry Point and Camp Lejeune. When World War II flared, he was commissioned as a lieutenant (junior grade) in the U.S. Navy.

When the war ended, he became the first secretary of the Morehead City Chamber of Commerce.

Carlton joined the EMC in 1950, becoming the 10th person to take the head job at the young co-op.

The corporation then had 1,998 members and 16 employees. Three substations provided power to members throughout the co-op's service area.

"Back then," he recalled, "we promoted the volume use of electricity."

The co-op and other utilities urged people to use more energy to make their lives more pleasant, he said. Electricity was cheap and utility companies wanted people to build total-electric homes and offices.

"Of course, things have changed now," he added.

As Carteret-Craven's manager, Carlton saw tremendous growth at the co-op and the areas it serves.

Emerald Isle, for years accessible only by ferry, began attracting increasing numbers of tourists. A model of beach development, the town of Pine Knoll Shores began to take shape.

The town of Havelock boomed as the nearby Marine Corps air station began attracting increasing numbers of servicemen and their families.

"We became one of the fastest-growing cooperatives around," he said.

"It's been a good life," he added. "I've enjoyed it. If God was to take me today, I'd have no regrets."

---

**and photo by Mark Davis, Carteret- en Electric Membership Corporation, head City**

Larry Johnson/Albemarle EMC, Hertford

**Mrs. W. D. Elliott of Tyner, who helped organize Albemarle Electric Membership Corporation, Hertford, discusses the hardships of country living without electricity in an interview with Pat Haggerty of "U.S. Farm Report," a syndicated television show that's aired by about 110 stations around the country. The interview was part of the show's coverage of special events at the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History marking the 50th Anniversary of the creation of the Rural Electrification Administration. Mrs. Elliott was one of several individuals who participated in a "live" oral history interview session as part of those events.**

# An American Salute

## Two formal ceremonies, a major museum exhibition and toasts from members of Congress marked America's celebration of the beginnings of rural electrification

Two formal national ceremonies and a major museum exhibition were among the events marking the nation's celebration of the 50th Anniversary of beginnings of the rural electric program on May 11.

Meanwhile, members of both houses of Congress joined in the celebration by toasting the program with laudatory resolutions.

The ceremonies involved a program at Warm Springs, Ga., featuring the re-enactment of President Franklin Roosevelt's signing of the executive order establishing the Rural Electrification Administration on May 11, 1935.

A crowd of about 1,400 turned out for the event at FDR's "Little White House."

Among those on the program were Bob Bergland, general manager of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA), Georgia Gov. Joe Frank Harris and FDR's grandson, David Roosevelt.(See page 3 for an excerpt from David Roosevelt's remarks.)

At Madison, S.D., Postmaster General Paul N. Carlin addressed about 2,000 people who gathered for ceremonies formally issuing a special REA commemorative stamp. Also on the program were Sen. James Abdnor of South Dakota and NRECA President Vernon Williams of Colorado.

At the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History, visitors saw various demonstrations reflecting country life before rural electrification and attended a "live" oral history interview with men and women who recalled "the day the lights came on."

The resolution adopted by the Senate was submitted jointly by Nor Carolina Sen. Jesse Helms, chairm of the Senate Agriculture Committ and Nebraska Sen. Edward Zorinsk ranking minority member.

It noted that the program broug "immeasurable benefits to rur Americans in increased productivit jobs, comfort, health and safety and rural electric systems gained strength and stature, making "sig ficant contributions to the econon development of the areas they serve

It also cited the electric co-ops "a strong, reliable industry, whi continues to build on a half-centu of accomplishment while adapting the changing needs of rural Americ

The resolution commended RE for "its contributions to the progr made by the nation during the p 50 years in achieving the electrifi tion of rural America."

It concluded by saying all individuals who have been involved in the program should be commended for their "dedication, vision and untiring support for this successful effort."

The House resolution was submitted jointly by Texas Rep. E. (Kika) de la Garza, chairman of the House Agriculture Committee and Illinois Rep. Edward R. Madigan, ranking minority member.

The resolution pointed out that REA borrowers have "established a record of responsibility in meeting their repayment obligations unmatched in any other federal program of financial assistance." It noted that these systems have helped establish and expand more than 20,000 businesses, creating nearly one million new jobs.

Calling the program a "symbol of hope and a model of excellence" for other nations, the resolution called for REA to "continue to provide financing and technical assistance at reasonable cost to ensure that the modern living standards of rural Americans and the quality of their communities are preserved through access to reliable and competitively priced electricity."

# A Tip-of-the-Hat From Three North Carolina Congressmen

Three members of the North Carolina Congressional delegation have formally tipped their hats to the 50th Anniversary of the Rural Electrification Administration in remarks published in the *Congressional Record.*

Seventh District Rep. Charles Rose noted that when the agency was established "most rural Americans lived in intolerably primitive conditions" which have been romanticized through images of a mother scrubbing clothes on a washboard.

"As romantic as this scene may be now, it was a tragedy in 1935."

Creation of REA, he added, "brought about the most dramatic change ever in the lives of millions of people in rural areas."

The cooperatives which were formed to provide power in those rural areas "are a testament to the American spirit of hard work and ingenuity."

Tenth District Rep. James T. Broyhill called the program "a shining example of what Americans can accomplish when they work together in their local communities."

When REA extended power into rural areas, he said, the farmer had a new "hired hand"—the electric motor, which brought with it "unlimited potential for increasing agricultural productivity."

As the rural economy was "revolutionized," electricity "provided unlimited power and light for work and leisure."

Rep. Broyhill concluded: "Because REA and Americans all across the land have toiled for half a century at improving our rural communities, the quality of American life has improved immeasurably."

Second District Rep. I. T. (Tim) Valentine recalled the "high ideals, aspirations and determination" that led rural Americans to organize electric co-ops under the REA program, saying the service they provided "not only enhanced the quality of life of the rural communities, but has made all of America a greater nation ...."

Both Rep. Valentine and Rep. Rose referred to recent administration efforts to curtail or eliminate the REA financing program.

Rep. Valentine said: "At a time when our farmers face great economic adversities, we must continue to nurture and carry on the dream envisioned by rural pioneers 50 years ago."

Rep. Rose noted that in this period of promoting the nation's growth and recovery, "it makes little sense for this administration to eliminate one of the best vehicles for economic growth and recovery."

***"Brothers and sisters, I want to tell you this. The greatest thing on earth is to have the love of God in your heart, and the next greatest thing is to have electricity in your house."***

*Farmer giving witness in a rural Tennessee church in the early 1940s*

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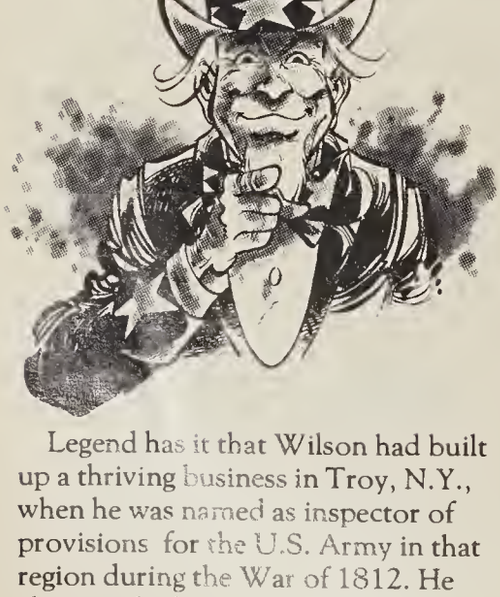
## "Uncle Sam": A Symbol That Started As A Joke

Chances are good you've seen an image of dear old "Uncle Sam" in newspaper ads or elsewhere during the week of July Fourth, since he's become such a popular symbol for the country and for American patriotism.

These days, he's often portrayed as a dignified and serious senior citizen with a rather flamboyant style of dress. But he was originally conceived as part of a joke that was played on a New York state meat dealer named Samuel Wilson.



Legend has it that Wilson had built up a thriving business in Troy, N.Y., when he was named as inspector of provisions for the U.S. Army in that region during the War of 1812. He also supplied meat to the Army quartermaster.

Government officials visited Wilson's plant and asked a workman what the "U.S." stamped on the meat barrels stood for. It actually meant the United States government, of course, but the workman jokingly said it represented his boss, "Uncle Sam" Wilson.

The reference became a standard joke among American soldiers and soon all government property came to be called Uncle Sam's.

Newspapers and magazines picked up the image and added the visual touches that have personified the characters—the stars-and-stripes outfit, the hat and the goatee.

The character became a familiar sight across the nation as the imposing figure on the "I want you ..." Army recruiting posters during both world wars.

As for the butt of the original "Uncle Sam" joke, Sam Wilson continued to prosper as a businessman in Troy and died in 1854 at the age of 88.

He was saluted by the U.S. Congress in 1961 in a resolution calling him the "progenitor of America's national symbol."

## Growing Onions For Profit—In 1861?

I know times have changed a lot since 1861, but I'm not sure that's enough to explain how a New York publisher came to put out a book that year devoted entirely to *Onions: How To Raise Them Profitably.*

The paperback book includes 31 pages of advice from veteran onion-growers, "most of whom have been engaged from 10 to 30 years in raising onions largely for market," says the cover blurb. It proved to be so popular with farmers and gardeners—or whoever grew such things in those days—that at least two editions were published.

I simply can't imagine what kind of market these folks might have had for the plain old onion. The hot dog hadn't even been invented yet, had it? I somehow can't imagine restaurants of that era listing French Fried Onion Rings on their menus.

These are the ways I know onions best, although I certainly enjoy many dishes that include onions for flavor. Surely the herb wasn't used solely for flavoring purposes a century ago if there was such widespread interest in growing them for profit.

All these somber questions were raised by a copy of the book's second edition that was discovered by Bill Gorges, who runs the Almost Anything Store in Havelock. He passed it along to us for review because it intrigued him so much.

The book's preface explains that it was prepared as a supplement to the publisher's *American Agriculturalist* magazine, which had stirred up a tremendous response from readers with a notice asking for manuscripts on onion-growing.

The editor received so many articles that he decided he couldn't do justice to the subject in the magazine and, indeed, would be performing a service "to cultivators at large" by publishing the best of the material in book form—after paying the writers "a suitable consideration" for the use of their work, of course.

I can't judge the advice these writers offer on how to grow onions, but one fellow from Vermont certainly had his economics straight:

"By all means do not let them remain long on your hands. If you keep them long in heaps, they will rot. And then you had better have anything else."

—*Owen Bishop*

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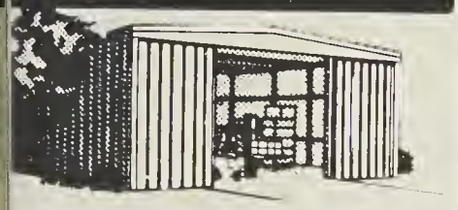

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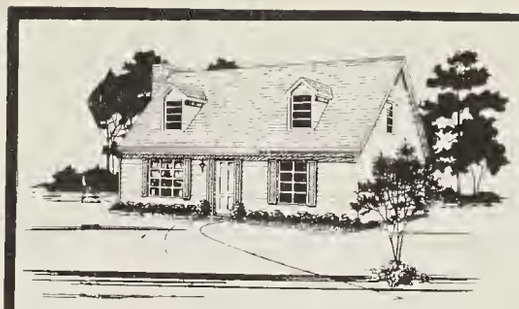

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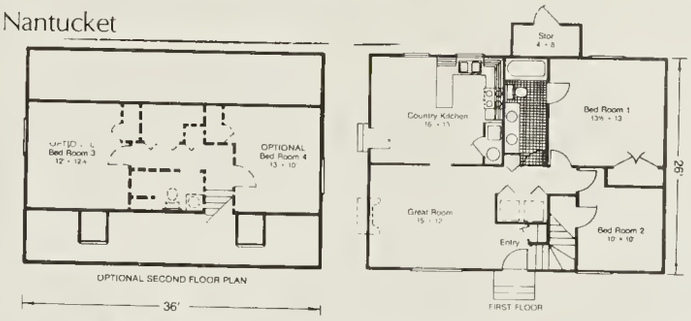


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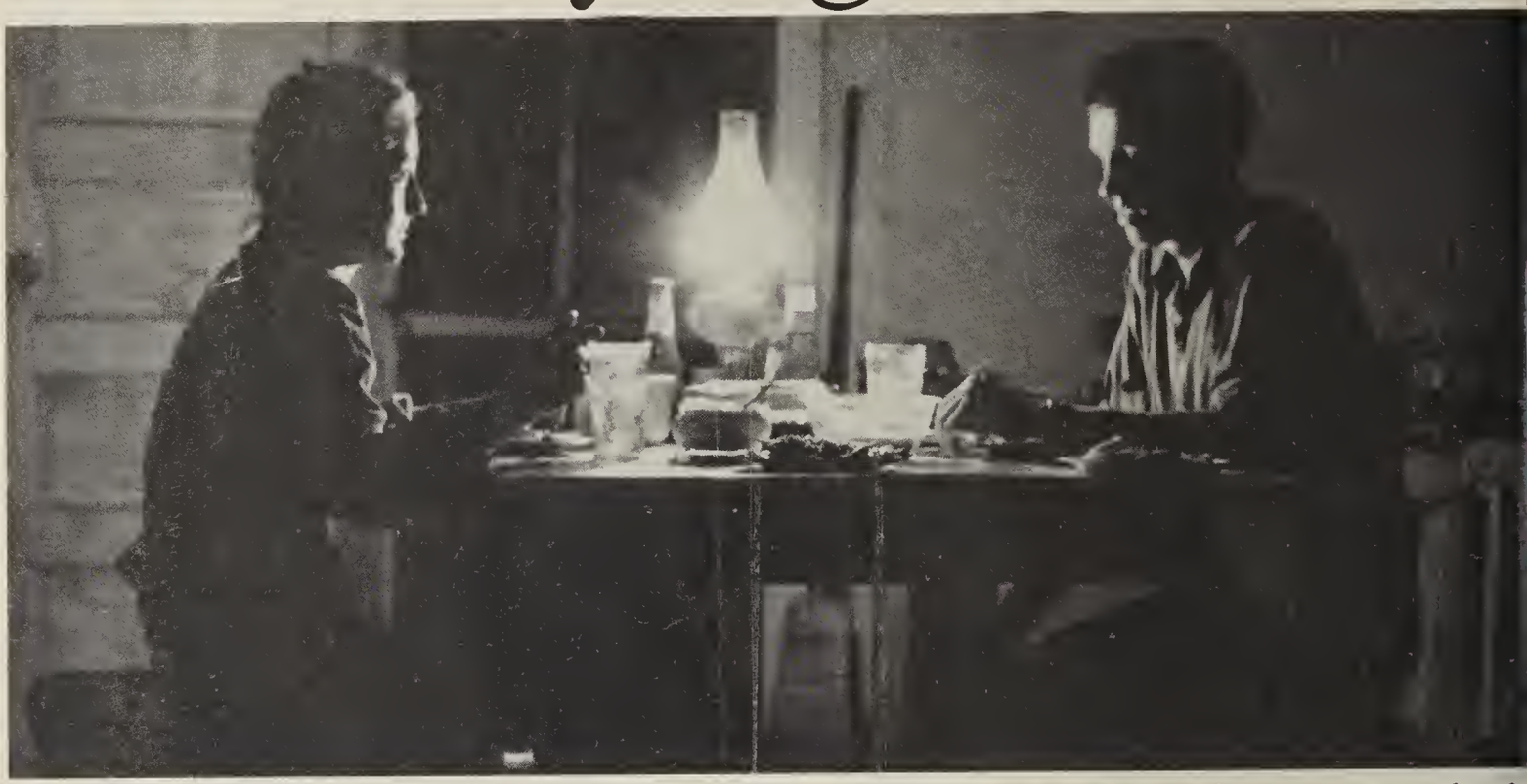

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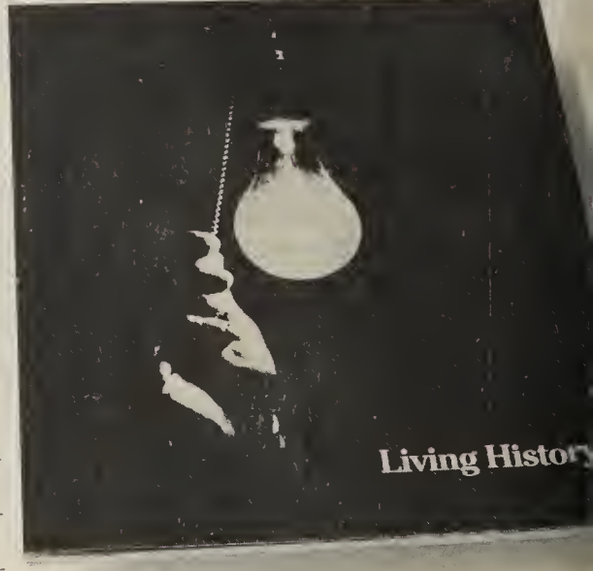


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